

State Auditor Joshua C. Gallion

Morton County Water Resource District

Mandan, North Dakota

Audit Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2024 *Client Code: PS30010*





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District Officials December 31, 2024

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Wade Bachmeier Chairman
Jamie Wetsch Vice Chairman
Bruce Engelhardt Director
James E. Schmidt Boardmember
Todd Norton Boardmember

Brenda Winckler Secretary/Treasurer

Karin Garvie General Manager, Water System
Carrie Schaner Administrative Manager, Water System

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of District Commissioners Morton County Water Resource District Mandan, North Dakota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business type activities, and each major fund of Morton County Water Resource District, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Morton County Water Resource District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund of Morton County Water Resource District, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (*Government Auditing Standards*), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Morton County Water Resource District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Morton County Water Resource District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Independent Auditor's Report – Continued

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing our audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
 appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Morton
 County Water Resource District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Morton County Water Resource District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *budgetary comparison* schedule and notes to the required supplementary information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted the *management's discussion and analysis* that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the *Governmental Accounting Standards* Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Independent Auditor's Report - Continued

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 11, 2025 on our consideration of Morton County Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Morton County Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Morton County Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota August 11, 2025

Statement of Net Position December 31, 2024

		overnmental				
400570		Activities		Activities		Total
ASSETS	Φ	CEO 047	Φ	F00 4F0	Φ	4 467 000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	658,817	\$	508,452	\$	1,167,269
Investments		345,512		1,290,509 28,020		1,636,021 28,020
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents Accounts Receivable		-		172,112		172,112
Intergovernmental Receivable		-		100,927		100,927
Taxes Receivable		2,591		100,921		2,591
Special Assessments Receivable		703		_		703
Capital Assets		703		_		703
Nondepreciable		1,091,588		3,001,643		4,093,231
Amortized, Net		1,051,000		378,771		378,771
Depreciable, Net		5,544,550		10,445,784		15,990,334
Boprociasio, Not		0,011,000		10,110,701		10,000,001
Total Assets	\$	7,643,761	\$	15,926,218	\$	23,569,979
LIABILITIES						
Accounts Payable	\$	_	\$	213,425	\$	213,425
Salaries Payable	Ψ	_	Ψ	13,044	Ψ	13,044
Payroll Liability		21		-		21
Interest Payable		133		46,993		47,126
Retainage Payable		-		25,000		25,000
Long-Term Liabilities						,
Due Within One Year						
Long-Term Debt		12,066		132,251		144,317
Compensated Absences Payable		· -		9,147		9,147
Due After One Year				,		,
Long-Term Debt		-		2,865,285		2,865,285
Compensated Absences Payable		-		77,794		77,794
	•					
Total Liabilities	_\$	12,220	\$	3,382,939	\$	3,395,159
NET POSITION						
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$	6,623,939	\$	10,781,669	\$	17,405,608
Restricted for:						
Debt Service		-		28,020		28,020
Dam Maintenance		9,879		-		9,879
Unrestricted		997,723		1,733,590		2,731,313
Total Net Position	\$	7,631,541	\$	12,543,279	\$	20,174,820

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

		Net (Expense) Revenue and									nd
			Program	Re	venues		Cha	ang	es in Net Pos	itio	า
					Capital		Business-				
		C	Charges for	C	Grants and	Go	overnmental		Type		
Functions/Programs	Expenses		Services	Co	ontributions		Activities Activit		Activities		Total
Governmental Activities											
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$ 310,056		5,843	\$	13,667	\$	(290,546)	\$	-	\$	(290,546)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	1,017		-		-		(1,017)		-		(1,017)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 311,073	\$	5,843	\$	13,667	\$	(291,563)	\$			(291,563)
Business-Type Activities											
Water System	\$ 3,345,615	\$	2,955,487	\$	1,495,331	\$		\$	1,105,203	\$	1,105,203
Total Primary Government	\$ 3,656,688	\$	2,961,330	\$	1,508,998	\$	(291,563)	\$	1,105,203	\$	813,640
	General Rev	enı/	ies								
	Taxes					\$	153,486	\$	-	\$	153,486
	Interest Earn	ngs					21,743		58,394		80,137
	Gain on Sale	of C	Capital Asse	ts			-		33,000		33,000
	Miscellaneou	s Re	evenue				-		36,621		36,621
	Total Genera	Rev	enues			\$	175,229	\$	128,015	\$	303,244
	Change in Ne	t Po	sition			\$	(116,334)	\$	1,233,218	\$	1,116,884
	Net Position	- Jar	nuary 1			\$	7,747,875	\$	11,310,061	\$	19,057,936
	Net Position	- De	cember 31			\$	7,631,541	\$	12,543,279	\$	20,174,820

Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds December 31, 2024

ACCETO	General Fund
ASSETS Cash and Cash Equivalents Investments Taxes Receivable Special Assessments Receivable	\$ 658,817 345,512 2,591 703
Total Assets	\$ 1,007,623
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities	
Payroll Liability	\$ 21
Total Liabilities	\$ 21
Deferred Inflows of Resources Taxes Receivable Special Assessments Receivable	\$ 2,591 703
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 3,294
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 3,315
Fund Balances Committed Dam Maintenance Unassigned	\$ 9,879 994,429
Total Fund Balances	\$ 1,004,308
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$ 1,007,623

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position December 31, 2024

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds		\$ 1,004,308
Total <i>net position</i> reported for government activities in the statement of net position is different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds.		6,636,138
Property taxes and special assessments receivable will be collected after year- end, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and therefore are reported as deferred inflows in the funds.		
Property Taxes Receivable Special Assessments Receivable	\$ 2,591 703	3,294
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All liabilities, both current and long-term, are reported in the statement of net position.		
Long-Term Debt Interest Payable	\$ (12,066) (133)	 (12,199)
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities		\$ 7,631,541

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	General Fund
REVENUES Property Taxes Maintenance Assessments Interest Income Miscellaneous	\$ 153,579 5,843.01 21,744 13,667
Total Revenues	\$ 194,833
EXPENDITURES Current Projects Payroll Professional Fees Miscellaneous Debt Service Principal Interest	\$ 72,116 38,477 17,284 12,337 11,781 1,079
Total Expenditures	\$ 153,074
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 41,759
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 962,549
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 1,004,308

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds		\$ 41,759
The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. Capital Outlay Depreciation Expense	\$ 39,800 (209,642)	(169,842)
Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.		11,781
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Net Change in Interest Payable		62
Some revenues reported on the statement of activities are not reported as revenues in the governmental funds since they do not represent available resources to pay current expenditures. Net Change in Taxes Receivable	\$ 5	

(99)

\$ (116,334)

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Net Change in Special Assessments Receivable

Statement of Net Position – Proprietary Funds For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Business-Type Activities
	Water System
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 508,452
Investments	1,290,509
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents Debt Reserve	28,020
Intergovernmental Receivable	100,927
Utility Billings Receivable	172,112
- , ,	
Total Current Assets	\$ 2,100,020
Noncurrent Assets	
Capital Assets	
Nondepreciable	\$ 3,001,643
Amortized, Net	378,771
Depreciable, Net	10,445,784
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$ 13,826,198
Total Assets	\$ 15,926,218
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 213,425
Salaries Payable	13,044
Interest Payable	46,993
Retainage Payable	25,000
Long-Term Debt	132,251
Compensated Absences	9,147
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 439,860
Noncurrent Liabilities	
Long-Term Debt	\$ 2,865,285
Compensated Absences	77,794
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	\$ 2,943,079
Total Liabilities	\$ 3,382,939
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 10,781,669
Restricted for Debt Service	28,020
Unrestricted	1,733,590
Total Net Position	\$ 12,543,279

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position – Proprietary Funds December 31, 2024

	Ві	usiness-Type Activities
		ater System
OPERATING REVENUES	•	0.055.407
Charges for Services	\$	2,955,487
Miscellaneous Revenue		36,621
Total Operating Revenues	\$	2,992,108
OPERATING EXPENSES		
General and Administrative	\$	138,646
Payroll		790,243
Insurance		62,915
Operations and Maintenance		1,818,036
Depreciation		418,914
Amortization		31,564
Total Operating Expenses	\$	3,260,318
Operating Loss	\$	(268,210)
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)		
Interest Income	\$	58,394
Gain on Sale of Capital Asset		33,000
SWC Reimbursements		1,495,331
Interest Expense and Service Charges		(85,297)
Total Non-Operating Revenues	\$	1,501,428
Change in Net Position	\$	1,233,218
Net Position - January 1	\$	11,310,061
Net Position - December 31	\$	12,543,279

Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Funds December 31, 2024

		siness-Type Activities
	W	ater System
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Receipts from Customers Payments to Suppliers Payments to Employees Miscellaneous Revenue	\$	3,289,906 (2,999,482) (782,199) 36,621
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	\$	(455,154)
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES Acquisition of Capital Assets	\$	(1,711,753)
Intergovernmental Reimbursements Principal Paid on Capital Debt Proceeds from Loan	·	1,495,331 (126,685) 308,782
Interest and Fees Paid on Capital Debt		(82,998)
Net Cash Used by Capital and Related Financing Activities	\$	(117,323)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Purchases, Sales & Maturities of Investments Interest Income	\$	66,606 58,394
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	\$	125,000
Net Decrease in Cash	\$	(447,477)
Cash & Cash Equivalent - January 1	\$	983,949
Cash & Cash Equivalent - December 31	\$	536,472
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH USED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating Loss	\$	(268,210)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Used by Operating Activities Depreciation	\$	418,914
Amortization Sale of Capital Assets Change in Assets and Liabilities:		31,564 33,000
Accounts Receivable Intergovernemental Receivables Other Asset		3,745 297,674 -
Accounts Payable Retainage Payable		(864,979) (114,906)
Payroll Liability Compensated Absences		4,621 3,423
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	\$	(455,154)
The Guerr Good by Operating Metivities	Ψ	(+00, 104)

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Morton County Water Resource District ("District") have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the government's accounting policies are described below.

Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the District. The District has considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the District are such that exclusion would cause its financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the District to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the District.

Based on these criteria, there are no component unit to be included within the District as a reporting entity

Basis of Presentation

Government-wide statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government, the District, and its component units. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, interest, and non-restricted grants and contributions, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements. The fund financial statements provide information about the District's funds, including its fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category, *governmental* and *proprietary*, are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The District reports the following major governmental fund:

General Fund - This is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Additionally, the District reports the following major enterprise fund:

Water System- This fund accounts for the operation and maintenance of the Missouri West Water System

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

Government-Wide and Proprietary Fund Financial Statements. The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the District gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The District considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year-end. All revenues are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the District funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net assets available to finance the program. It is the District's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, and then by general revenues.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits and money market accounts.

The investments of the District consist of certificates of deposits stated at cost with original maturities in excess of three months.

Capital Assets

Capital assets include plant and equipment. Assets are reported in the governmental activities' column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$7,500 or more. Such assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is not capitalized.

Capital assets of the District are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

ASSET	YEARS
Buildings	40
Infrastructure	40
Machinery	5 - 15
Equipment/Vehicles	3 - 5
Office Equipment	3 - 5

Compensated Absences

Full time employees earn vacation benefits from one to two hours per month, depending on tenure with the District. Up to 240 hours of vacation leave may be carried over at year end. Sick leave benefits are earned at the rate of one day per month regardless of the years of service.

Upon termination of employment, employees will be paid for vacation benefits that have accrued based on their current base of pay. Any employee who has ten or more consecutive years of employment will be eligible to receive payment for sick leave at a rate of 25% of the unused balance. The liability for compensated absences reported in the financial statements consists of unpaid, accumulated annual vacation and sick leave balances. The liability for compensated absences is reported in the government-wide financial statements. The leave consists of vacation leave and sick leave that is attributable to services already rendered, it accumulates, and it is more likely than not to be used or settled through cash or noncash means. A liability for these amounts is reported in the governmental funds only if they have matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements. The government-wide statement of net position reports both current and noncurrent portions of compensated absences. A days used approach applied to the LIFO flow assumption was adopted to determine this liability and the portions that are current and long term.

Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position.

In the fund financial statements, the face amount of the debt is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources. Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

Fund Balances

Fund Balance Spending Policy. It is the policy of the District to spend restricted resources first, followed by unrestricted resources. It is also the policy of the Board to spend unrestricted resources of funds in the following order: committed, assigned and then unassigned.

Committed Fund Balances. Committed fund balances consist of amounts in the general fund that are not restricted by enable legislation or 3rd parties but have been committed by the District Board for specific purposes.

Unassigned Fund Balances. Unassigned fund balances are reported in the general fund and for negative fund balances at year-end.

Net Position

Net investment in capital assets is reported for capital assets less accumulated depreciation, as well as net of any related debt to purchase or finance the capital assets. These assets are not available for future spending.

Restrictions of net position in the statement of net position are due to restricted tax levies and restricted Federal & State grants/reimbursements.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Change in Accounting Principle

The District implemented GASB Statement No. 101, Compensated Absences – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 16, during the year ended December 31, 2024. GASB Statement No. 101 updates the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences.

NOTE 2 DEPOSITS

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk associated with the failure of a depository institution, such that in the event of a depository financial institution's failure, the District would not be able to recover the deposits or collateralized securities that in the possession of the outside parties. The District does not have a formal policy regarding deposits that limits the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institution situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes, or bonds issued by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal land bank bonds, bonds, notes, warrants, certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the State of North Dakota, its boards, agencies or instrumentalities or by any District, city, township, school district, park district, or other political subdivision of the state of North Dakota. Whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by another state of the United States or such other securities approved by the banking board.

At year ended December 31, 2024, the District's carrying amount of deposits totaled \$2,831,221 and the bank balances totaled \$2,846,588. Of the bank balances, \$1,491,024 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining bank balances were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

NOTE 3 CAPITAL ASSETS

Primary Government

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2024 for the District:

	Balance						Balance
Governmental Activities	Jan 1		Increases Decreases		Transfers	Dec 31	
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated or Amortized							
Land	\$ 1,051,788	\$	39,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$	1,091,588
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated or Amortized	\$ 1,051,788	\$	39,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$	1,091,588
Capital Assets Being Depreciated							
Buildings	\$ 275,743	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	275,743
Vehicles & Equipment	160,404		-	-	-		160,404
Infrastructure	8,085,517		-	-	-		8,085,517
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$ 8,521,664	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	8,521,664
Less Accumulated Depreciation							
Buildings	\$ 124,477	\$	12,314	\$ -	\$ -	\$	136,791
Vehicles & Equipment	115,274		11,329	-	-		126,603
Infrastructure	2,527,721		185,998	-	-		2,713,719
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 2,767,472	\$	209,641	\$ -	\$ -	\$	2,977,113
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 5,754,192	\$	(209,641)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	5,544,551
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 6,805,980	\$	(169,841)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	6,636,139

Depreciation expense was charged to the conservation of natural resources function.

Business-Type Activities

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2024 for the Business-Type activities

	Balance						Balance
Business-Type Activities	Jan 1	ı	ncreases	De	ecreases	Transfers	Dec 31
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated or Amortized							
Land	\$ 253,034	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 253,034
Construction in Progress	1,128,626		1,619,983		-	-	2,748,609
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated or Amortized	\$ 1,381,660	\$	1,619,983	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 3,001,643
Capital Assets Being Depreciated							
Buildings	\$ 1,101,337	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 1,101,337
Vehicles & Equipment	553,817		91,770		45,196	-	600,391
Infrastructure	17,963,019		-		-	-	17,963,019
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$ 19,618,173	\$	91,770	\$	45,196	\$ -	\$ 19,664,747
Less Accumulated Depreciation							
Buildings	\$ 80,282	\$	36,711	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 116,993
Vehicles & Equipment	553,818		22,942		45,196	-	531,564
Infrastructure	8,211,145		359,260		-	-	8,570,405
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 8,845,245	\$	418,913	\$	45,196	\$ -	\$ 9,218,962
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 10,772,928	\$	(327,143)	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 10,445,785
Capital Assets, Being Amortized							
Intangible Assets	\$ 1,371,300	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 1,371,300
Less Amortization							
Intangible Assets	\$ 960,965	\$	31,564	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 992,529
Capital Assets Being Amortized, Net	\$ 410,335	\$	(31,564)	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 378,771
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 12,564,923	\$	1,261,276	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 13,826,199

Depreciation expense was charged to the conservation of natural resources function.

NOTE 4 LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Governmental Activities

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term liabilities:

	E	alance Jan 1 Increases Decreases		Balance Dec 31	Due Within One Year			
Long-Term Debt								
Loans Payable	\$	23,847	\$	-	\$ 11,781	\$ 12,066	\$	12,066

Business-Type Activities

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the following changes occurred in Business-Type activities long-term liabilities:

	Balance	1					Balance	_	e Within
	Jan 1	ır	creases	De	creases		Dec 31		ne Year
Long-Term Debt									
Bonds Payable	\$ 2,067,571	\$	-	\$	99,685	\$	1,967,886	\$	103,001
Loans Payable	747,868		308,782		27,000		1,029,650		29,250
Total Long-Term Debt	\$ 2,815,439	\$	308,782	\$	126,685	55	2,997,536	\$	132,251
Compensated Absences	\$ 83,518	\$	3,423	\$	-	\$	86,941	\$	9,147
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 2,898,957	\$	312,205	\$	126,685	\$	3,084,477	\$	141,398

^{*} The change in Compensated Absences is shown as a net change.

The annual requirements to amortize the outstanding long-term debt at December 31, 2024 is as follows:

	G	OVERNMENT	AL	ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS TYPE ACTIVITIES								
Year Ending	Loans Payable				Bonds I	able	Loans Payable						
December 31	Principal Interest		Principal	Interest			Principal	Interest					
2025	\$	12,066	\$	795	103,000.90	\$	66,831	\$	29,250	\$	15,454		
2026					106,492.60		63,339		29,250		15,015		
2027					110,102.70		59,729		29,250		14,576		
2028					113,835.20		55,997		34,250		14,138		
2029					117,694.20		52,138		34,250		13,624		
2030-2034					1,416,760.35		31,084		171,250		60,413		
2035-2039									171,250		47,569		
2040-2044									205,750		32,915		
2045-2049									220,000		9,975		
2050-2054									105,150		9,490		
Total	\$	12,066	\$	795	\$ 1,967,886	\$	329,117	\$	1,029,650	\$	233,167		

Through the end of 2024, \$507,000 has been authorized for Missouri West Water System for a State Revolving Fund loan. Through the end of 2024, the Missouri West Water System had drawn down \$481,650 of the available \$507,000. The unused portion of the loan at the end of 2024 for the Water System was \$25,350.

NOTE 5 RETIREMENT PLAN

North Dakota Public Employees' Retirement System

The District participates in the Deferred Compensation Section 457 plan administered by the North Dakota Public Employees' Retirement System (NDPERS). Plan members are not required to contribute; however, the District contributes 8-11%, depending on years of service, of the employee's annual salary. The District's contributions to NDPERS for the years ending December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022 were \$33,800, \$31,467, and \$37,443 respectively.

Nationwide Retirement

The District contributes to Nationwide Retirement. Plan members are not required to contribute; however, the District contributes 8-11%, depending on years of service, of the employee's annual salary. The District's contributions to Nationwide Retirement for the years ending December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022 were \$24,331, \$21,762, and \$15,071 respectively.

NOTE 6 PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied as of January 1. The property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on January 1. The tax levy may be paid in two installments: the first installment includes one-half of the real estate taxes and all the special assessments; the second installment is the balance of the real estate taxes. The first installment is due by March 1 and the second installment is due by October 15. A 5% discount is allowed if all taxes and special assessments are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent, and penalties are assessed.

NOTE 7 JOINT VENTURE

Under authorization of state statutes, the District joined the water resource districts of Burleigh County, Dunn County, Emmons County, Mercer County, Mountrail County, Oliver County and Sioux County to establish and operate a joint exercise of powers agreement for water management districts located along the Missouri River. One member of the directors for the joint venture is appointed by each government. The operating and capital expenses are funded by contributions from each government. Each participating district's share of the cost of operations is determined by the number of river miles in each district.

Unaudited summary financial information for the year ended December 31, 2024 is as follows:

Cash and Investments	\$ 15,869
Total Revenues	\$ 113,612
Total Expenses	(122, 337)
Net Change in Equity	\$ (8,725)

Complete financial information can be obtained from Missouri River Joint Water Board, P.O. Box 488, Hazen, ND 58545

NOTE 8 RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

In 1986, state agencies and political subdivisions joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. The Morton County Water Resource District and the Missouri West Water System pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability, automobile, and inland marine insurance coverage. For the Morton County Water Resource District the coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of ten million dollars per occurrence for general liability, and \$197,691 for public assets/mobile equipment and portable property. For the Missouri West Water System the coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of ten million dollars per occurrence for general liability, ten million for automobile, and \$115,806 for public assets/mobile equipment and portable property.

The District also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund and the State Bonding Fund. The District pays an annual premium to the Fire and Tornado Fund to cover property damage to buildings and personal property. Replacement cost coverage is provided by estimating replacement cost in consultation with the Fire and Tornado Fund. The Fire and Tornado Fund is reinsured by a third-party insurance carrier for losses in excess of two million dollars per occurrence during a 12-month period. The State Bonding Fund currently provides the District with blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$1,026,308 for its employees. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

The District has workers compensation with the North Dakota Workforce, Safety and Insurance and purchases commercial insurance for employee health and accident insurance.

NOTE 9 CONSTRUCTION COMMITMENTS

The District had open constructions commitment as of December 31, 2024 as follows:

Business-Type Activities

									Re	maining	
				Tota	al Contract				Ba	alance	
	Orio	ginal	Change	w i	th Change	Total			ind	cludes	
Project	Con	tract	Orders		Orders	Completed	Re	tainage	Reta	ainages	% Complete
South Mandan Expansion	\$ 3	,127,077	\$ (378,766)	\$	2,748,312	\$ 2,748,312	\$	25,000	\$	25,001	100.00%

MORTON DISTRICT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund December 31, 2024

	Original Budget	-	Final Budget	-	Actual	riance with
REVENUES Taxes Maintenance Assessment Interest Income Miscellaneous	\$ 181,000 11,000 2,200 1,500	\$	128,700 5,800 11,200 13,670	\$	153,579 5,843 21,744 13,667	\$ 24,879 43 10,544 (3)
Total Revenues	\$ 195,700	\$	159,370	\$	194,833	\$ 35,463
EXPENDITURES Current Projects Payroll Professional Fees Miscellaneous Debt Service Principal Interest	\$ 96,000 48,500 27,500 12,000	\$	72,115 38,700 17,350 12,500 12,900	\$	72,116 38,477 17,284 12,337 11,781 1,079	\$ (1) 223 66 163 1,119 (1,079)
Total Expenditures	\$ 184,000	\$	153,565	\$	153,074	\$ 491
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 11,700 962,549	\$	5,805 962,549	\$	41,759 962,549	\$ 34,972
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 974,249	\$	968,354	\$	1,004,308	\$ 34,972

The accompanying required supplementary information notes are an integral part of this schedule.

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

NOTE 1: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Budgetary Information

- The district board adopts an "appropriated budget" on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) for the general fund.
- The budget includes proposed expenditures and means of financing them.
- The district, on or before the October meeting shall determine the amount of taxes that shall be levied for district purposes and shall levy all such taxes in specific amounts. NDCC 11-23-05
- Each budget is controlled by the operations coordinator at the revenue and expenditure function/object level.
- The current budget, except for property taxes, may be amended during the year for any revenues and appropriations not anticipated at the time the budget was prepared. NDCC 57-15-31.1
- All appropriations lapse at year-end.

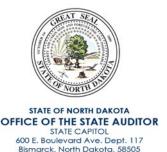
NOTE 2: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS

Budget Amendments

The District Board of Commissioners amended the budget for the year ended December 31, 2024 as follows:

	Original Budget	Am	nendment	Amended Budget		
General Fund						
Revenues	\$ 195,700	\$	(36, 330)	\$	159,370	
Expenditures	184,000		(30,435)		153,565	

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of District Commissioners Morton County Water Resource District Mandan, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, and each major fund of Morton County Water Resource District as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Morton County Water Resource District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 11, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Morton County Water Resource District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Morton County Water Resource District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Morton County Water Resource District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings* as items 2024-001 and 2024-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* - Continued

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Morton County Water Resource District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Morton County Water Resource District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Morton County Water Resource District's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings*. Morton County Water Resource District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota August 11, 2025

Summary of Auditor's Results For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Financial Statements

Type of Report Issued: Governmental Activities Business-Type Activities Major Funds	Unmodified Unmodified Unmodified		
Internal control over financial reporting			
Material weaknesses identified?	XYes		_ None Noted
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	Yes	X	_ None Noted
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	Yes	Х	None Noted

Schedule of Audit Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

2024-001 - LACK OF SEGREGATION OF DUTIES - MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

The Morton County Water Resource District has limited personnel responsible for most accounting functions. A lack of segregation of duties exists as limited personnel are responsible to collect and deposit monies, issue checks, send checks to vendors, record receipts disbursement in journals, maintain the general ledger, create credit memos, and perform bank reconciliations.

Effect

The lack of segregation of duties increases the risk of material misstatement to the Morton County Water Resource District's financial condition, whether due to error or fraud.

Cause

Management has chosen to allocate economic resources to other functions of the Morton County Water Resource District.

Criteria

According to the COSO framework, proper internal control surrounding custody of assets, the recording of transactions, reconciling bank accounts and preparation of financial statements dictates that there should be sufficient accounting personnel so duties of employees are properly segregated. The segregation of duties would provide better control over the assets of the districts.

Repeat Finding

Yes.

Recommendation

To mitigate the risk associated with this lack of segregation of duties, we recommend the following:

- Financial statements, credit memos, and payroll registers should be reviewed, analyzed, and spot-checked by a responsible official.
- Where possible, segregate the functions of approval, posting, custody of assets, and reconciliation as they relate to any amounts which impact the financial statements.

Morton County Water Resource District's Response

Agreed. We will segregate duties when it becomes feasible.

Schedule of Audit Findings - Continued

2024-002 - MATERIAL AUDIT ADJUSTMENTS - MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

During the audit of Missouri West Water System, we proposed material adjusting entries to the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The adjustments were approved by management and are reflected in the financial statements.

Effect

There is an increased risk of material misstatement to the Missouri West Water System's financial statements.

Cause

Morton County Missouri West Water System may not have had procedures in place to ensure the financial statements are complete and accurate.

Criteria

Missouri West Water System is responsible for ensuring the financial statements are reliable, free of material misstatements, and in accordance with GAAP.

Repeat Finding

Yes.

Recommendation

We recommend Missouri West Water System review all adjusting entries to the financial statements to properly reflect the financial statements are in accordance with GAAP.

Missouri West Water System's Response

Agreed. We will review any adjusting entries to the financial statements.



NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR JOSHUA C. GALLION

NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

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